



**International Boundary and Water Commission  
United States and Mexico  
United States Section**

**JOB OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Position:** Land Surveyor, GG-1373-09

**Announcement Number:** 07-16

**Salary Range:** \$ 43,731–56,849

**Issue Date:** 5/9/2007

**Closing Date:** Open until filled.

**Area of Consideration:** Government-wide (refer to Section 3 below regarding who may apply)

**Section 1. POSITION BACKGROUND**

**Organization:** Upper Rio Grande Project  
American Dam

**Location:** El Paso, Texas

**FLSA:** Non-exempt

**Position Potential:** GG-9

**Full Time:** Yes

**Bargaining Unit:** Excluded

**Type of Appointment:** Full-time

**Position Duties.** The incumbent performs professional land surveying work for the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC). Survey assignments include, but are not limited to the following: location, right-of-way, and property surveys; river cross-sections; horizontal and vertical surveys; and surveys for placement of embedded materials, markers, and monuments. Directs activities of the survey crew party. Makes decisions involving work priorities and safety considerations. Sets up and operates sighting instruments and electronic distance measuring equipment. Conducts periodic precise level and alignment surveys on hydraulic structures such as dams, grade control structures, siphons, bridges, etc. Conducts prism or rod profile readings in the river using a boat or by wading. Performs other duties as assigned.

**Working Conditions:** Work is primarily performed outdoors with exposure to widely varying weather conditions. The incumbent may be subject to the following: insect and snake bites; minor injuries such as bruises, cuts and scrapes; exposure to water with biological and chemical contaminants; exposure to open stream flows with widely varying depths and currents; and working on an international boundary subject to criminal activities. The work requires the use of standard personal protective equipment to include safety boots, gloves, life vests, waders, tag lines, dust masks, etc.

**Physical Effort:** The work requires heavy physical exertion to include the following: recurring walking on rough or uneven surfaces; prolonged periods of standing; recurring bending, crouching, stooping, and reaching; frequent unassisted lifting and carrying of heavy items such as survey equipment commonly weighing up to 50 pounds (with heavier items lifted and carried with the assistance of others or with materials handling equipment); wading into river water with

varying depths and currents; working from a boat; and use of fine physical motor skills to include precise hand and eye coordination to operate precision instruments and take measurements.

## **Section 2. AGENCY INFORMATION**

**The USIBWC.** The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission United States and Mexico (USIBWC), is an international agency categorized as an independent bilateral organization within the federal government. There are various field offices located along the boundary with the headquarters office in El Paso, Texas. The USIBWC is responsible for providing environmentally-sensitive, timely and fiscally-responsible boundary and water issues along the United States and Mexico border region while sustaining an atmosphere of binational cooperation and by being responsive to public concerns. You can obtain detailed information about the USIBWC by visiting our website: <http://www.ibwc.state.gov>.

## **Section 3. WHO MAY APPLY**

Applications will be accepted from current status United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) employees; status transfer eligibles from other federal agencies; and reinstatement eligibles. Usually to have status, an individual must be currently employed in a permanent (career or career conditional) position, or have been employed in a permanent federal service position and be entitled to reinstatement. All qualification, legal, and regulatory requirements must be met as of the closing date of this announcement.

Veterans who are preference eligibles or who have been separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after three years or more of continuous active service may apply under job opportunity announcement number 07-17 for consideration. For more information, please refer to the Vetsinfo Guide at <http://www.opm.gov/veterans/html/vetsinfo.asp>.

## **Section 4. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Evaluation of Qualifications.** If you meet basic eligibility requirements, your application will be subject to further evaluation to determine the degree that you possess the necessary knowledge, skills, abilities, and other characteristics needed to perform the duties of the position.

### **Education and/or Specialized Experience Requirements:**

Grade 9 - In addition to the basic requirement, one year of specialized experience of at least the grade 7 level, or 2 years of progressively higher level graduate education (directly related education) leading to a master's degree or master's or equivalent graduate degree.

### **Basic Requirements:**

1. Degree: land surveying; or civil engineering with a surveying option/emphasis. The civil engineering major must have included at least 6 semester hours of surveying, 3 semester hours of land law, and 21 additional semester hours in any combination of the following: surveying, photogrammetry, geodetic surveying, geodesy, route surveying, remote sensing, cartography, survey astronomy, land information systems, computer-aided mapping, aerial photo interpretation, and survey analysis and adjustments. Or,

2. Combination of education and experience--courses equivalent to a major in land surveying or civil engineering as described in paragraph A, plus appropriate experience or additional education. Or,

3. The basic requirements for this series may be fully satisfied by a current registration as a land surveyor in a State, territory, or the District of Columbia obtained by written examination. Such registration must have been obtained under conditions outlined in the National Council of Engineering Examiners (NCEE) Unified Model Law for Registration of Surveyors. Applicants wishing to be considered under this provision must show evidence of registration based on successful completion of the written examinations. Registrations granted prior to adoption of a registration law with qualification requirements equivalent to the NCEE Model Law by the State, territory, or District of Columbia are not acceptable under this option. To be considered equivalent to the NCEE Model law, registration laws must include the four options listed within the NCEE Unified Model Law in the section specifying "General Requirements for Registration" as a Professional Land Surveyor.

**Specialized Experience.** Experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level in the normal line of progression for the occupation in the organization. Examples of specialized work experience such as mapping, conducting inspections and evaluation surveying; utilizing cartographic skills; preparing estimates for contracts involving photogrammetric mapping; different types of digitized mapping, etc.

#### **Evaluation Factors:**

You are **required** to respond to the evaluation factors listed below. On separate sheets of paper for each evaluation factor; **(A)** fully describe your experience in working with the element; **(B)** describe where and how you obtained your education/training in the element; and **(C)** describe the most complex issues with which you have dealt.

1. Professional knowledge and skills in applying concepts, principles, and techniques in land surveying measurement or determination of distance, areas, land boundaries, etc. Knowledge of surveying terminology. Ability to prepare plats and legal descriptions for tracts of land, and read maps and survey information.

2. Ability to direct activities such as survey procedures, proper equipment usage and measuring methods of other survey crew members.

3. Skill in operating Geographic Information System (GIS) Technology, sighting instruments and electronic distance measuring equipment, including Global Positioning System (GPS), Total Station Electronic Measuring Theodolite, electronic laser level, and electronic data recorder.

4. Advanced skill in interpersonal relations, including oral and written communications, in order to effectively interact with a variety of individuals and to sustain effective relationships with survey crew members, other project personnel, agency management officials, and external stakeholders such as property owners.

## Section 5. APPLICATION PROCEDURES

**General Application Information.** It is your responsibility to ensure the accuracy and completeness of your application. An incomplete application or one that is not completed in accordance with instructions found in this JOA will subject you to being found ineligible. It is the practice of the Human Resources Office not to contact an applicant for further information, documentation, or required materials. Do not submit letters of recommendation, training records, position descriptions, copies of awards, etc., unless they relate directly to the job for which applying. An individual concerned in examining an applicant for, or to a position in the agency may not receive or consider a recommendation of the applicant by a Senator or Representative, except as to the character or residence of the applicant. All material that you submit in response to this JOA will become part of the Promotion and Internal Placement Program files and will not be returned; therefore, be sure to make copies of your application material before submission. The USIBWC does not maintain an applicant supply file. The use of government property, the USIBWC internal mail distribution, or government franked envelopes to apply for a federal position is prohibited and subject to fines as prescribed by law.

**Obtaining application forms.** You may obtain forms needed to apply under this JOA by downloading them from the USIBWC's website at: at [www.ibwc.state.gov](http://www.ibwc.state.gov) or by calling the Human Resources Office at 1-800-262-8857 ext. 4727 or 915-832-4727 to have the forms mailed or faxed to you. Due to heightened security measures, you should not request application forms in person at a USIBWC facility.

**Submitting application forms.** It is highly recommended that you e-mail your application and the required items to the following address [hro@ibwc.state.gov](mailto:hro@ibwc.state.gov) or mail your application package to the below address:

USIBWC  
Human Resources Office  
4171 North Mesa, Building C, Suite 100  
El Paso, Texas 79902

If mailed, your application must be postmarked by the closing date noted in this JOA. Applications submitted by fax will not be accepted. Due to heightened security measures, the hand-delivery of applications to the USIBWC is discouraged. If hand-delivered, you must do the following: place the application in a sealed envelope; address the envelope to the USIBWC Human Resources Office annotating the date and time on the upper right hand corner; and leave the envelope with the security officer on duty. Neither the security officer nor the USIBWC will assume responsibility for misplaced or misdirected hand-delivered applications. A hand-delivered application must be received by the close of business.

**Required Forms and Documents.** You must submit all of the following forms and documents in order to be found eligible for consideration under this JOA:

1. Optional Form 612, Optional Application for Federal Employment; OR any other format such as a resume with the specific information required by Optional Form 510, Applying for a Federal Job.
2. You must self-certify you have a valid drivers license. This may be accomplished in Section E-Other Qualifications of the Optional Application for Federal Employment - OF 612; or with a simple statement that you have a valid drivers license.
3. You must respond to the evaluation factors.

4. If your qualifying based on your education you must submit a **copy** of your college transcript(s) or a list of college courses that include hours and grades.
5. Optional Form 306, Declaration for Federal Employment;
6. SF 181 - Ethnicity and Race Identification. The SF 181 is an optional form used for equal opportunity data collection and analysis throughout the federal government. E-mail the form directly the Equal Employment Opportunity Office to the following e-mail address [csrudio@ibwc.state.gov](mailto:csrudio@ibwc.state.gov). The form will not be used in the application evaluation process.
7. If you are a Promotion, Reassignment, Reinstatement, or Transfer Eligible, you must submit the following:
  - a. Copy of Standard Form 50, Notice of Personnel Action, which reflects your eligibility (status); and
  - b. Copy of your most recent performance rating/evaluation.

#### **Section 6. BASIS FOR RATING**

The information you provide in your response to the evaluation factors will be heavily relied upon in the rating process.

#### **Section 7. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL CANDIDATES**

**Appointment:** This is an excepted service position. An interchange agreement between USIBWC and the United States Office Personnel Management permits employees of USIBWC who do not have tenure in the competitive civil service to move between the USIBWC's excepted service positions and other agencies' competitive service positions on a noncompetitive basis.

**Conditions of Employment.** If you are selected for the position, you must meet all of the following conditions of employment (failure to do so will result in termination of your employment):

1. An official college transcript(s) must be submitted upon appointment to the position.
2. Salary payments will be made by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), known as Direct Deposit.
3. A background check will occur once you have accepted the position. If, at any time during your employment, you are found to have knowingly provided incorrect information with the intention of defrauding or misleading the agency to gain employment; your employment with the agency will be terminated.

**Relocation Expenses.** Relocation expenses will not be paid by the U.S. Section.

**Equal Opportunity Employer.** The USIBWC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Selection of a candidate shall be based on merit, potential, and job-related criteria and without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, marital status, sex, age, non-disqualifying physical handicap, labor organization affiliation or non-affiliation, personal favoritism, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factors.

**Assistance.** You may obtain additional information and assistance by contacting the Human Resources Office at 1-800-262-8857 ext. 4727 or 915-832-4727

**[www.ibwc.state.gov](http://www.ibwc.state.gov)**